



Gulf of Mexico Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin

8 December 2005

NOAA Ocean Service

NOAA Satellites and Information Service

Last bulletin: December 8, 2005

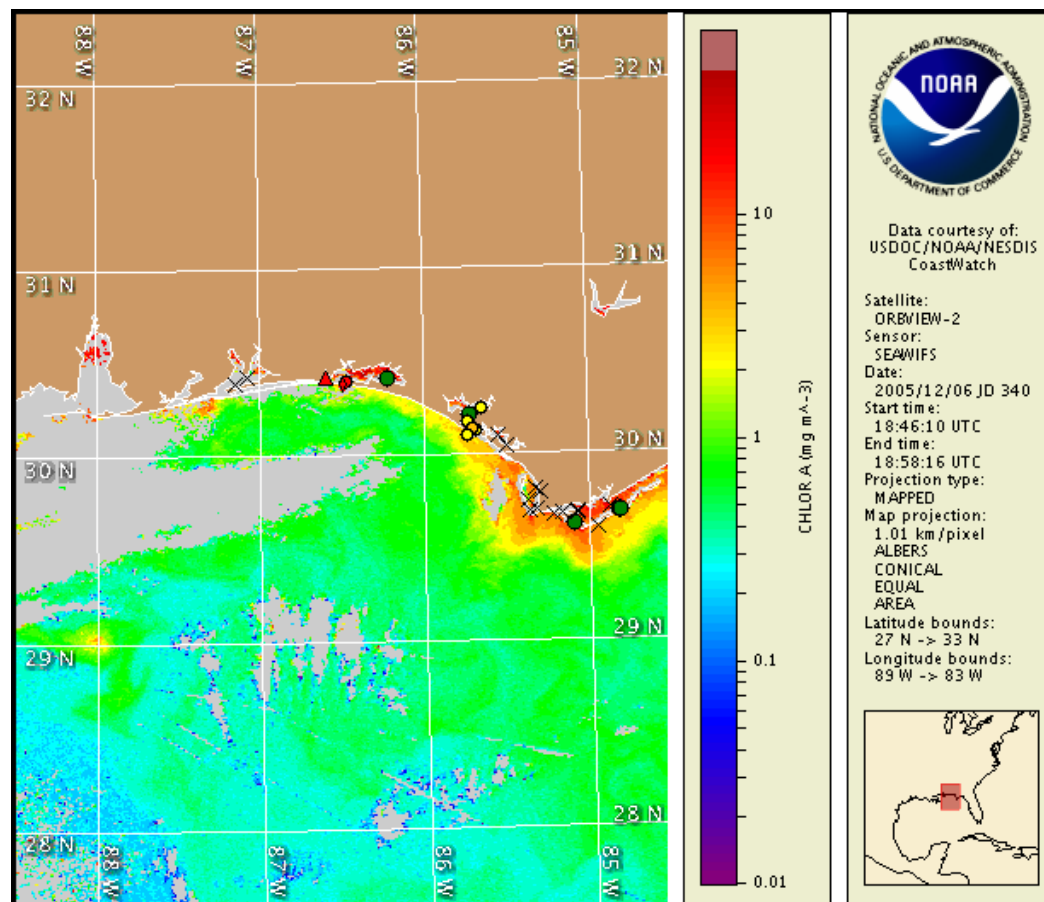
Conditions Report

Harmful algal blooms have been identified in patches from Okaloosa to Bay Counties. In Okaloosa County, patchy moderate impacts are possible today, with very low impacts possible tomorrow through Sunday. No impacts are expected in Walton and Bay Counties through Sunday. Dead fish have been reported recently in Okaloosa County. Dead fish smell, while unpleasant, doesn't produce the same respiratory irritation as harmful algal blooms.

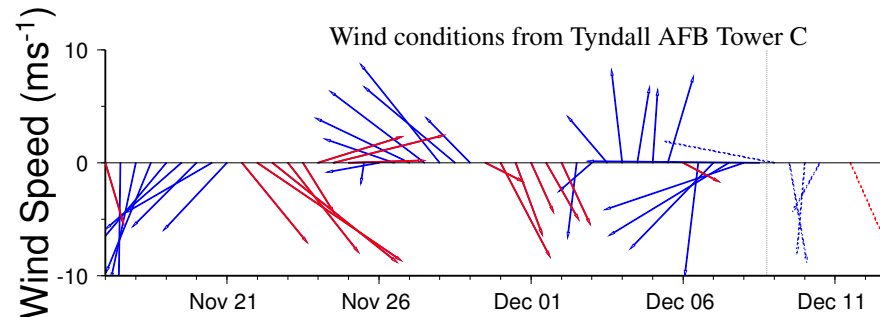
Analysis

The bloom in the panhandle of Florida is weakening. FWRI sample data from this week confirms that *Karenia brevis* isn't present in Wakulla and Franklin Counties, and the highest concentration found this week was a low concentration in Okaloosa County. Imagery from December 6 has an elevated chlorophyll feature just south of St. Joseph Bay. Within this feature, at 29°35'N 85°20'W, imagery indicates a chlorophyll concentration >10 µg/L. Offshore winds may cause southern expansion and upwelling, which could intensify the bloom.

Bronder



Satellite chlorophyll image with possible HAB areas shown by red polygon(s).

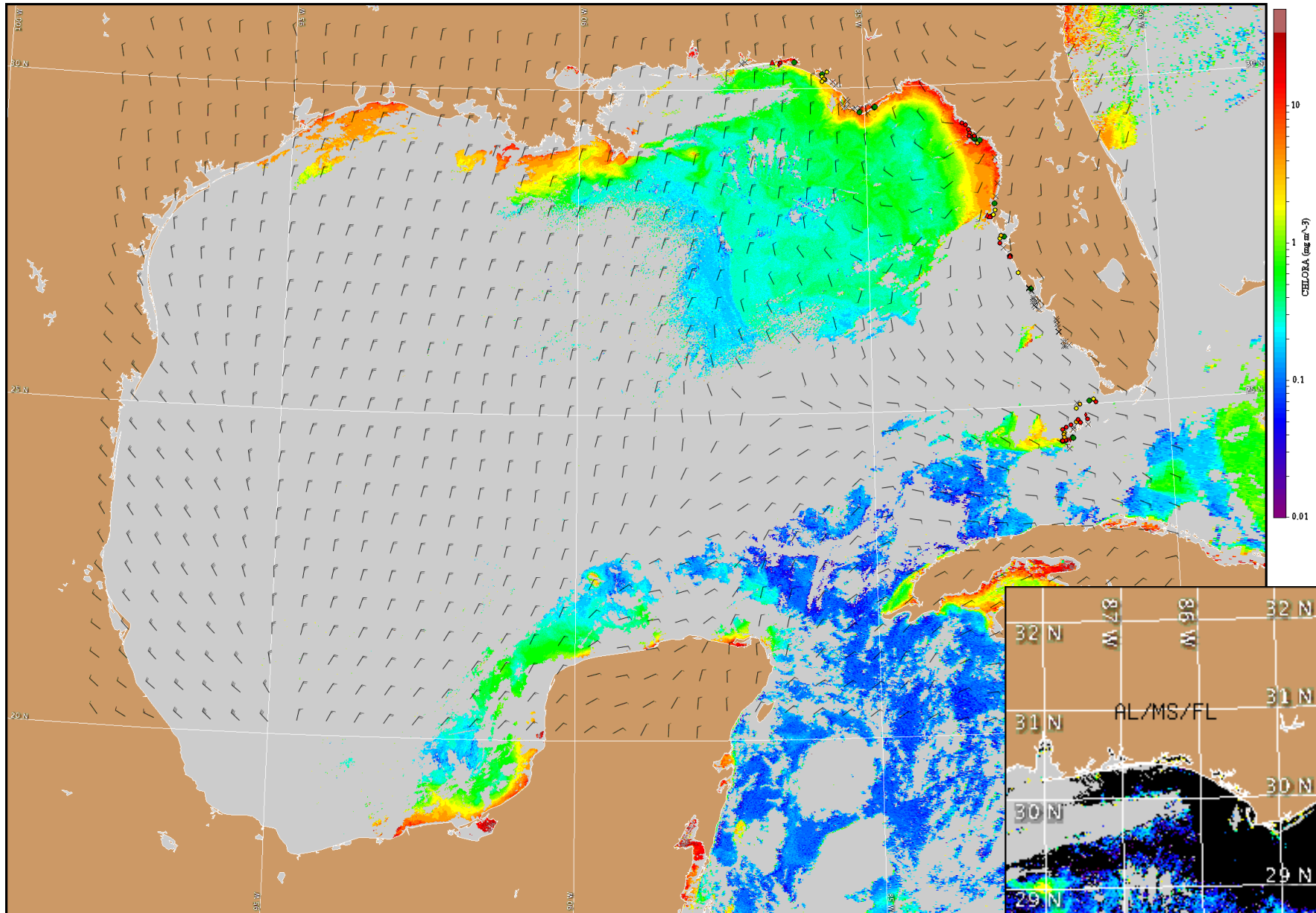


Wind speed and direction are averaged over 12 hours from buoy measurements. Length of line indicates speed; angle indicates direction. Red indicates that the wind direction favors upwelling near the coast. Values to the left of the dotted vertical line are measured values; values to the right are forecasts.

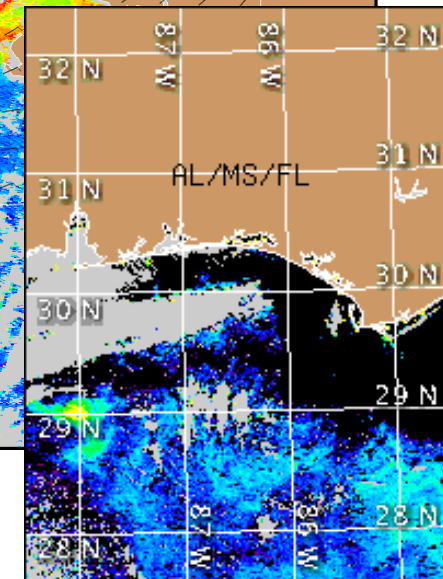
Winds will be east (25 kts, 13 m/s) today, north (15 kts, 8 m/s) tomorrow, northwest (10 kts, 5 m/s) Satur- day, strengthening (15 kts, 8 m/s) Sunday.

Please note the following restrictions on all SeaWiFS imagery derived from CoastWatch.

1. Data are restricted to civil marine applications only; i.e. federal, state, and local government use/distribution is permitted.
2. Image products may be published in newspapers. Any other publishing arrangements must receive Orblmage approval via the CoastWatch Program.



Satellite chlorophyll image and forecast winds for December 9, 2005 12Z with cell concentration sampling data from November 28-December 2 shown as red squares (high), red triangles (medium), red diamonds (low b), red circles (low a), orange circles (very low b), yellow circles (very low a), green circles (present), and black "X" (not present).



Verified HAB areas shown in red. Other bloom areas shown in yellow (see p. 1 analysis for interpretation).